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MI 750 Theories and Models of Mission

Howard A. Snyder

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Asbury Theological Seminary
 Spring Semester, 2000
 2262
 Wed., 2:25-5:05 p.m. – SH 404
 8964

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[Syllabus available also on the Seminary Network as: MI750 - S2000]

MI 750. THEORIES AND MODELS OF MISSION

DESCRIPTION

An examination of the ways Christian mission has been understood historically, with particular focus on Evangelical, Ecumenical, and Roman Catholic approaches to mission during the twentieth century. Attention is given especially to the interrelationships of Gospel, church, and culture in theologies of mission.

OBJECTIVE

The principal objective of this course is to examine, understand, and compare theologies of mission that have had important influence in the history of the church, particularly in the twentieth century. Differing mission theologies are critically examined with a view toward helping equip Christian leaders to carry out mission from a theological base that is informed, coherent, and biblically grounded.

STRUCTURE OF COURSE

We will follow the schedule indicated below. Class sessions will usually be geared to the assigned readings. The approach used combines two methods: A chronological study focusing particularly on important missionary conferences and documents, and a comparative study using models.

TEXTS

Hedlund, Roger E. *Roots of the Great Debate in Mission*, rev. ed. Theological Book Trust, 1993.

Snyder, Howard A. *Models of the Kingdom*. Abingdon, 1991.

Stott, John, ed. *Making Christ Known: Historic Mission Documents from the Lausanne Movement, 1974-1989*. Eerdmans, 1997.

Yates, Timothy. *Christian Mission in the Twentieth Century*. Cambridge University Press, 1996.

RECOMMENDED

Bosch, David J. *Transforming Mission: Paradigm Shifts in Theology of Mission*. Orbis, 1991.

Carpenter, Joel A., and Wilbert Shenk, eds. *Earthen Vessels: American Evangelicals and Foreign Missions, 1880-1980*. Eerdmans, 1990.

Thomas, Norman E., ed. *Classic Texts in Mission and World Christianity*. Orbis, 1995 (a book of readings keyed to Parts 2 and 3 of Bosch).

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

1. Participate in all class sessions, seeking to advance the learning of others as well as yourself through informed discussion.

2. Complete all the assigned readings (See course schedule below). Usually readings will be discussed in class, and students will be expected to have read the assigned readings in advance. A reading report is due each week; use the form provided at the end of the syllabus. Photocopy additional forms as needed, or copy the form to your computer.

The recommended readings provide more depth and in some cases cover additional material and perspectives not treated in the required reading assignments. Complete as much of the recommended reading as possible.

3. Write a critical comparison and evaluation of two of the following documents (approx. 10 pages. Due March 22):

The Schleithelm Confession (1527)

“Address to the Church,” *Ecumenical Missionary Conference* (NY 1900), 2:348-50

Mott, “Closing Address,” Edinburgh 1910 (Hedlund, 49ff)

“The Christian Message,” Jerusalem 1928 (Hedlund, 71ff)

The Barmen Declaration (1934)

“The Unfinished Evangelistic Task,” Madras 1939 (Hedlund, 110ff)

“Reshaping the Pattern of Missionary Activity,” Willingen 1952 (Hedlund, 139ff)

The Wheaton Declaration (Hedlund, 169ff)

“Decree on the Missionary Activity of the Church” (from *Ad Gentes*) (Hedlund, 213ff)

Nostra Aetate, 1965 (Flannery, 738ff)

“Renewal in Mission,” Uppsala 1968 (Hedlund, 242ff)

The Frankfurt Declaration (Hedlund, 250ff)

The Lausanne Covenant (Hedlund, 304ff)

“Confessing Christ Today,” Nairobi 1975 (Hedlund, 374ff)

The Manila Manifesto, Manila 1989 (Hedlund, 419ff)

“Mission and Evangelism,” Geneva 1982 (Hedlund, 443ff)

“Come Holy Spirit, Renew the Whole Creation” (Hedlund, 461ff)

“A Covenant on World Evangelization” (Hedlund, 481ff)

AD 2000 and Beyond Movement Declaration (GCOWE 1995)

4. Write a critical comparison and evaluation of two of the following conferences, indicating the reasons each was missiologically significant (10 to 15 pages. Due April 19):

New York 1900

Jerusalem 1928

New Delhi 1961

Berlin 1966

Bangkok 1973

Nairobi 1975

Wheaton 1983

Seoul 1995

Edinburgh 1910

Madras 1939

Second Vatican Council

Uppsala 1968

Lausanne 1974

Pattaya 1980

Lausanne II at Manila 1989

Pattaya 1997

5. Write a review of one of the following books, evaluating its significance in terms of the issues studied in this course (5 to 10 pages. Due May 3):

Roland Allen, *Missionary Methods: St. Paul's or Ours?* (1912)

Karl Barth, *Theological Existence Today* (1933)

Arthur Judson Brown, *The Foreign Missionary* (1907)

Guilhermo Cook, *The Expectation of the Poor* (1985)

J. N. Farquhar, *The Crown of Hinduism* (1913)

Gustavo Gutierrez, *A Theology of Liberation* (1974)

John Hick, *God Has Many Names* (1980)
 William Hocking, *Re-Thinking Missions* (1932)
 A. G. Hogg, *Karma and Redemption* (1909)
 Paul Knitter, *No Other Name?* (1985)
 Donald McGavran, *The Bridges of God* (1955)
 J. A. Mackay, *The Other Spanish Christ* (1932)
 John R. Mott, *The Evangelization of the World in This Generation* (1901)
 John R. Mott, *The Decisive Hour for Christian Missions* (1910)
 Lesslie Newbigin, *The Open Secret* (1978)
 J. W. Pickett, *Mass Movements in India* (1933)
 A. T. Pierson, *The Divine Enterprise of Missions* (1891)
 R. E. Speer, *What Constitutes a Missionary Call?* (1918)
 J. J. Stamoolis, *Eastern Orthodox Mission Today* (1986)
 John R. W. Stott, *Christian Mission in the Modern World* (1975)
 W.A. Visser 't Hooft, *No Other Name* (1963)
 R. P. Wilder, *The Great Commission* (1936)

6. FINAL EXAM: Write an overview or summary of some representative theologies of mission in the twentieth century, using the eight models in *Models of the Kingdom* as an interpretive framework. In the process, feel free to revise or expand the eight models, if necessary (approx. 7 to 10 pages). [Due May 18.](#)

EVALUATION

In grading, the course components will be weighted approximately as follows:

Class participation, including input from readings:	25%
Written assignments #3, 4, and 5:	50%
Final exam:	25%

SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNED READING

- FEB. 9 - INTRODUCTION: History, Paradigms, Models
 MODELS OF MISSION: The Kingdom of God (1)
Readings: Snyder, 7-66
Recommended: Bosch, 1-11
- FEB. 16 - MODELS OF MISSION: The Kingdom of God (2)
Readings: Snyder, 67-131
 Hedlund, vii-19
 Stott, xi-xxiv
Recommended: Bosch, 123-89
- FEB. 23 - MISSION AS EXPANSION: 1900-1910
 EDINBURGH 1910
Readings: Yates, 3-33
 Hedlund, 21-51
Recommended: Bosch, 190-213
 Thomas, 3-14
- MAR. 1 - THE INTERNATIONAL MISSIONARY COUNCIL
 MISSION AS CHURCH OF A PEOPLE
Readings: Hedlund, 53-60
 Yates, 34-93
Recommended: Bosch, 214-61
 Thomas, 16-48
- MAR. 8 - JERUSALEM 1928 / THE HOCKING-KRAEMER DEBATE
 DR. RUTH TUCKER: Helen Barrett Montgomery
Readings: Hedlund, 61-94
 Yates, 94-124
Recommended: Bosch, 262-313
 Thomas, 50-60
- MAR. 15 - MADRAS 1938 AND BEYOND / UPPSALA 1968
 TODD JOHNSON: Mission Research at the Cutting Edges
Readings: Hedlund, 97-153, 223-55
Recommended: Bosch, 313-45
 Thomas, 61-76
- MAR. 22 - MISSION AS PRESENCE AND DIALOGUE 1950-60
 MID-TERM EXAM based on the required readings to date.
Readings: Yates, 127-62
Recommended: Bosch, 349-67
- MAR. 29 - ROMAN CATHOLIC PERSPECTIVES
 EVANGELICAL PERSPECTIVES: Wheaton, Berlin
Readings: Hedlund, 155-222
 Yates, 163-92
Recommended: Bosch, 368-93
 Thomas, 81-121

[APR. 3-7 - Reading Week - No Classes]

APR. 12 - LAUSANNE 1974

THE LAUSANNE COVENANT

Readings: Hedlund, 291-340 (Review pp. 304-10)

Yates, 193-219

Stott, 1-72

Recommended: Bosch, 393-420

Thomas, 122-68

- APR. 19 - BANGKOK 1973
ECUMENICAL PERSPECTIVES: Nairobi 1975
Readings: Hedlund, 257-89, 341-405
Yates, 219-223
Stott, 73-138
Recommended: Bosch, 420-57
Thomas, 169-221
- APR. 26 - EVANGELICAL INITIATIVES: Pattaya, Wheaton, Grand Rapids, Manila
ECUMENICAL PERSPECTIVES: Melbourne, Vancouver, San Antonio
Readings: Hedlund, 407-68
Yates, 224-51
Stott, 139-248
Recommended: Bosch, 457-89
Thomas, 223-86
- MAY 3 - PENTECOSTAL & CHARISMATIC PERSPECTIVES
A.D. 2000 PERSPECTIVES
Readings: Hedlund, 469-83; Hand-outs
Recommended: Bosch, 489-510
Thomas, 287-321
- MAY 10 - MODELS OF MISSION TODAY / REVIEW AND SUMMARY
Readings: Snyder, 132-56
Recommended: Bosch, 511-19

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Evangelical Mission Quarterly.

International Bulletin of Missionary Research. (Ecumenical, Evangelical, Roman Catholic.)
Published by OMSC.

International Review of Mission. Published by Division of World Mission and Evangelism
DWME/WCC (World Council of Churches)

Missiology. (Ecumenical, Evangelical, Roman Catholic.)

Missionalia. Especially useful for its abstracts.

Mission Frontiers. U.S. Center for World Mission.

WEEKLY READING REPORT

MI750

Name _____ Date _____

Readings completed this week:

<u>Author</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>No. of pages</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
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TOTAL PAGES: _____

What “models of the Kingdom” were evident (or implied) in this reading?

What issues emerged which have relevance for the theology of mission, or your own ministry?

WEEKLY READING REPORT

MI750

Name _____ Date _____

Readings completed this week:

<u>Author</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>No. of pages</u>
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